

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

04/12/2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Certification of Financial Contribution 2022 RAISE Grant Application:

PARTNERS: Partnership for Active Regional Transportation and

Neighborhood Equity in Rutherfordton and Spindale

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) wishes to express its full support for the *PARTNERS: Partnership for Active Regional Transportation and Neighborhood Equity in Rutherfordton and Spindale* project under the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program. The *PARTNERS* project is a collaboration between the towns of Rutherfordton and Spindale, the NCDOT and other local stakeholders. This multimodal project will convert Charlotte Road/Main Street into a complete street that safely and equitably serves residents using all modes of travel. The corridor is the primary connection between the two towns and is a critical route to access essential community resources and employment. While the existing roadway primarily serves motorists, this project will build on past investments to provide safe and efficient transportation options for all modes, with an emphasis on the needs of the low-income neighborhoods along the corridor and the *historically disadvantaged community* of Spindale.

If awarded, the *PARTNERS* project will create new multimodal connections for transportation disadvantaged populations and enable the towns to create a vibrant and inclusive transportation corridor that connects people to places, is fully integrated with existing and planned investments while spurring further economic development while fostering community cohesion and a sense of local pride. The project is a critical step forward to enhancing the vitality and economic competitiveness of rural downtowns and public spaces.

To that end, the NCDOT will fund the *PARTNERS* project in the amount of \$2,360,000 (YOE\$) in Transit, Spot Safety, High Impact Low Cost, and Highway Maintenance

Secretary Pete Buttigieg Page 2 of 2 04/12/2022

Improvement Program funds towards a successful RAISE grant from the state funded North Carolina Highway Trust Fund.

Thank you for your consideration of the PARTNERS project for the 2022 RAISE Discretionary Grant Program.

If NCDOT can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (919)707-4320 or via e-mail at sjking@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Stephanie King

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Chief Financial Officer